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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Mahesh Rajagopalan

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EXAMINER

GAY, SONIA L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2614

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

04/14/2009

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/721,009	Applicant(s) RAJAGOPALAN ET AL.	
	Examiner SONIA GAY	Art Unit 2614	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 January 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-69 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 30,60,63,68 and 69 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29,31-59,61,64 - 67 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/23/2009</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

This action is submitted in response to Amendment submitted on 1/23/2009 in which claims 1 – 69 are presented for examination. Claims 30, 60, 63, 68, and 69 stand allowed. The new examiner for this case is Sonia Gay- Mason.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 1/23/2009 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. Claims 1- 16, 31- 46 and 61 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Doganata et al. (US 6,798,753) in view of Musa (US Patent Application, Pub. No.: US 2003/0208541 A1), and further in view of Thompson et al. (US 2002/0075303).

For claims 1, 14, 31, 44, and 61, Doganata discloses a method, apparatus, and computer-readable medium for establishing a computer-enhanced conference call between a plurality of users (See Abstract), comprising: detecting a computer-enhanced conference call event that was previously configured by an initiating user to occur at a designated time in the future (See col. 2 lines 51-58, col. 4 lines 59-61, and col. 6 lines 31-39); contacting conference users (for example, if the conference is dial-out, the participants are contacted directly by phone and if the

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conference is dial-in, the participants are contacted via e-mail) associated with the computer-enhanced conference call event; receiving at least one response from the conference users (for example, if the conference is dial-out, the participants respond by answering the phone and if the conference is dial-in, the participants respond with an e-mail either accepting or rejecting the conference); and establishing a conference call between the initiating user and the conference users based on the at least one received response (See col. 5 lines 16-29 and col. 6 lines 31-54). Yet, Dognata fails to teach establishing a collaboration between the initiating user and conference users that are authorized to participate in the collaboration and receiving a communication from one of the conference users to record a message for play back to the initiating user.

However, Musa discloses a method and system for the purpose of implementing real – time collaboration conferencing wherein a collaboration is established between the initiating user and conference users that are authorized to participate in the collaboration (See pg. 2-3, paragraph [0021] – [0022] and pg. 3, paragraph [0025]).

Additionally, Thompson et al. discloses a method and system for the purpose of implementing collaboration conferencing wherein a conference user is prompted to record a message for play back to the initiating user in instances when a conference user declines the invitation to the conference (Abstract; [0140][0141] [0143]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teachings of Dognata with the teachings of Musa and Thompson et al. for the purpose of providing a method for handheld applications and users of handheld applications to implement wireless collaboration conferencing while enforcing the constraints of

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wireless handheld computers, and providing a set of services including prompting a conference user to record a message for play back to the initiating user in instances when a conference user declines the invitation to the conference.

In regards to claims 2 and 32, Doganata discloses the method and apparatus, wherein detecting a computer-enhanced conference call event comprises: scanning a data structure for the computer-enhanced conference call event (See col. 4 lines 16-35).

In regards to claims 3 and 33, Doganata discloses the method and apparatus, wherein the data structure comprises a calendar application (See Fig. 2 and calendar view user interface 22) associated with the initiating user (See col. 4 lines 16-35).

In regards to claims 4 and 34, Doganata discloses the method and apparatus, wherein the computer-enhanced conference call event comprises a trigger indicating a proposed computer-enhanced conference call previously scheduled by the initiating user (See col. 2 lines 51-58, col. 4 lines 59-61, and col. 6 lines 31-39).

In regards to claims 5 and 35, Doganata discloses the method and apparatus, wherein the proposed computer-enhanced conference call identifies the conference users and identifying conference users comprises: collecting identifiers for the conference users from a first data structure (See Fig. 2 and calendar view user interface 22) corresponding to the computer-enhanced conference call event; and collecting contact information for the conference users from a second data structure (See Fig. 2 and personal address book 33) based on the conference user identifiers (See col. 3-4 lines 66-5 and col. 4 lines 16-35).

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In regards to claims 6 and 36, Doganata discloses the method and apparatus, wherein the first data structure comprises a calendar application (e.g., calendar view user interface 22) and the second data structure comprises an address book listing (e.g., personal address book 33) at least the conference users and their corresponding contact information (See col. 3-4 lines 66-5 and col. 4 lines 16-35).

In regards to claims 7 and 37, Doganata discloses the method and apparatus, wherein contacting the conference users comprises: collecting contact information associated with the conference users; and establishing a communication connection with the conference users using the contact information (See col. 6 lines 3-9).

In regards to claims 8 and 38, Doganata discloses the method and apparatus, wherein the contact information comprises telephone numbers associated with the conference users and establishing a communication connection comprises: dialing out to conference users using telephone numbers corresponding to the conference users (See col. 6 lines 3-9).

In regards to claims 9 and 39, Doganata discloses the method and apparatus, wherein contacting the conference users comprises: sending notifications (e.g., via e-mail) of a computer-enhanced conference call request to the conference users (See col. 5-6 lines 66-2).

In regards to claims 10 and 40, Doganata discloses the method and apparatus, wherein establishing a conference call comprises: connecting calls to devices of conference users based on responses to the notifications (See col. 5 lines 16-29 and col. 6 lines 31-54).

In regards to claims 11 and 41, Doganata discloses the method and apparatus, wherein connecting comprises: bridging calls to devices of the initiating user and conference users that accepted the computer-enhanced conference call request so that the initiating user and the

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conference users that accepted the computer-enhanced conference call request may conduct a conference call; and providing the initiating user with notification of any conference user that declined the computer-enhanced conference call request (See col. 5 lines 16-35).

In regards to claims 12 and 42, Doganata discloses the method and apparatus, comprising processing a conference user declining the computer-enhanced conference call request by at least one of: receiving a communication from a conference user to record a message for subsequent play back to the initiating user; receiving a communication declining the request without any further processing by a conference user; receiving a communication from a conference user to set an alternate contact telephone number; and receiving a communication from a conference user to set a period of time in which the conference user is to be contacted again (See col. 5 lines 33-35).

In regards to claims 13 and 43, Doganata discloses the method and apparatus, wherein at least one of the calls is forwarded to a preferred device of one of the conference users (See col. 6 lines 3-16).

In regards to claims 15 and 45, Doganata discloses the method, wherein the sending comprises: retrieving data corresponding to the conference users; selecting devices associated with the conference users to receive the notification based on the retrieved data; and providing the notification to the selected devices for display on the selected devices (See col. 5 lines 16-29 and col. 5-6 lines 66-2).

In regards to claims 16 and 46, Doganata discloses all of claims 16 and 46 limitations, except the method and apparatus, comprising receiving a designation, from at least one of the conference users, of a preferred device to participate in the collaboration. Musa et al., however,

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does disclose receiving a designation, from at least one of the conference users, of a preferred device to participate in the collaboration (See pg. 3, paragraph [0026]).

3. Claims 17 -29, 47 -59, 62, and 64 - 67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Doganata et al. (US 6,798,753), in view of Musa (US Patent Application, Pub. No.: US 2003/0208541 A1), and further in view of McIntyre (US 2002/0146105).

For claims 17, 27, 47, 57, and 62, Doganata discloses a method, apparatus, and computer-readable medium for establishing a computer-enhanced conference call between a plurality of users (See Abstract), comprising: detecting a computer-enhanced conference call event that was previously configured by an initiating user to occur at a designated time in the future (See col. 2 lines 51-58, col. 4 lines 59-61, and col. 6 lines 31-39); contacting conference users (for example, if the conference is dial-out, the participants are contacted directly by phone and if the conference is dial-in, the participants are contacted via e-mail) associated with the computer-enhanced conference call event; receiving at least one response from the conference users (for example, if the conference is dial-out, the participants respond by answering the phone and if the conference is dial-in, the participants respond with an e-mail either accepting or rejecting the conference); and bridging calls to devices of the initiating user and the conference users based on the at least one received response, wherein at least one of the calls is forwarded to a preferred device of one of the conference users (See col. 5 lines 16-29 and col. 6 lines 31-54). Yet, Doganata fails to teach establishing a collaboration between the initiating user and conference users that are authorized to participate in the collaboration and receiving a response that includes an alternate contact telephone number.

However, Musa discloses a method and system for the purpose of implementing real – time collaboration conferencing wherein a collaboration is established between the initiating user and conference users that are authorized to participate in the collaboration (See pg. 2-3, paragraph [0021] – [0022] and pg. 3, paragraph [0025]).

Additionally, McIntyre discloses a method and a system for providing call forwarding wherein a user receives and provides a response to a menu prompt to provide an alternate contact telephone number when the original call is directed to the number of a device where the user is not currently located (Fig.1 and 5; [0003][0006][0116][0019][0020]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teachings of Dognata with the teachings of Musa and McIntyre. for the purpose of providing a method for handheld applications and users of handheld applications to implement wireless collaboration conferencing while enforcing the constraints of wireless handheld computers, and providing a set of services including prompting a user to enter an alternate contact telephone number when the original call is directed to the number of a device where the user is not currently located.

Claims 18 – 26 and 28 - 29 are rejected for the same reasons disclosed above in the rejection of claims 2 –9 ,12, and 15 - 16.

Claims 48 – 56 and 58 – 59 are rejected for the same reasons disclosed above in the rejection of claims 2 – 9, 12, and 15 - 16.

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For claims 64 - 67, Doganata discloses a method for participating in a computer-enhanced conference call automatically established by at least one or more communication entity (See Abstract), comprising: scheduling a computer-enhanced conference call at a predetermined time in the future (See col. 2 lines 51-58, col. 4 lines 59-61, and col. 6 lines 31-39) using a calendar application (See Fig. 2 and calendar view user interface 22), wherein scheduling includes identifying conference users that are to participate in the computer-enhanced conference call (See col. 4 lines 16-35); and at the predetermined time: receiving an indication that a computer-enhanced conference call has been configured in accordance with the scheduled computer-enhanced conference call, and receiving an indication that at least one conference user has either joined or declined to join the computer-enhanced conference call (See col. 5 lines 16-29). Yet, Doganata fails to teach establishing a collaboration between the initiating user and conference users that are authorized to participate in the collaboration and receiving a response that includes an alternate contact telephone number.

However, Musa discloses a method and system for the purpose of implementing real – time collaboration conferencing wherein a collaboration is established between the initiating user and conference users that are authorized to participate in the collaboration (See pg. 2-3, paragraph [0021] – [0022] and pg. 3, paragraph [0025]).

Additionally, McIntyre discloses a method and a system for providing call forwarding wherein a user receives and provides a response to a menu prompt to provide an alternate contact telephone number when the original call is directed to the number of a device where the user is not currently located (Fig.1 and 5; [0003][0006][0116][0019][0020]).

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Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teachings of Dognata with the teachings of Musa and McIntyre. for the purpose of providing a method for handheld applications and users of handheld applications to implement wireless collaboration conferencing while enforcing the constraints of wireless handheld computers, and providing a set of services including prompting a user to enter an alternate contact telephone number when the original call is directed to the number of a device where the user is not currently located.

Response to Arguments

22. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-69 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SONIA GAY whose telephone number is (571)270-1951. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar can be reached on (571) 272-7488. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Sonia Gay/
Examiner, Art Unit 2614

April 7, 2009

/Rasha S AL-Aubaidi/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2614